FACT SHEET

NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY OF THE EMISSIONS INVENTORY, AND DESCRIPTION OF EPA'S PLANS FOR THE INTEGRATED URBAN AIR TOXIC STRATEGY SECTIONS 112(K), 112(C)(3), AND SECTION 202(L)

TODAY'S ACTION

- ♦ The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has named a list of 40 candidate hazardous air pollutants that may pose a significant health threat in urban areas. EPA has also completed its analysis of the sources of emissions of these pollutants. Based on this analysis, EPA is announcing the availability of the draft emissions inventory of the source categories (or industry groups) that emit the named pollutants. Hazardous air pollutants are also known as air toxics; these are pollutants which are know or suspected to cause cancer or other serious health effects such as birth defects or reproductive effects.
- ♦ The inventory will serve as the basis for decisions to control the air toxics which pose the greatest threat to public health in urban areas. Additionally, the inventory will serve as the basis to list particular source categories for regulation. The Clean Air Act requires that 90 percent of the emissions of the final list of air toxics are subject to regulation. EPA requests comment on the emissions inventory and has made the inventory available to all interested parties on the Internet.
- ♦ EPA is also providing a general description of the Integrated Urban Air Toxic Strategy and the direction that EPA intends to take in developing that strategy. In order to support further development of the strategy EPA is requesting information on the impact current Federal, State and local regulations have reducing emissions of the named air toxics.
- Further, EPA is requesting any available ambient air quality data on the named air toxics that can be used in support of subsequent analyses for final listing.

BACKGROUND

The Clean Air Act defines major sources as stationary sources that have the potential to emit 10 tons/year or more of a listed hazardous air pollutant or 25 tons/year of or more of a combination of pollutants. Area sources are stationary sources that emit hazardous air pollutants, but are not classified as a major source.

The Clean Air Act requires EPA to develop a strategy to reduce emissions of urban air toxics and address the risk associated with exposure to urban air toxics. The following is a list of the key elements of the strategy:

• developing a research strategy on air toxics, including research on the toxicity of the urban

- air toxics; monitoring and modeling improvements to better identify and address risk in urban areas.
- identifying at least 30 air toxics that occur in urban areas that present "the greatest threat to public health."
- identifying the source categories or subcategories that emit the 30 air toxics and assure that 90 percent or more of the aggregate emissions are subject to standards.
- developing a schedule of activities to reduce public health risk from area sources using all EPA and State/local authorities.
- developing a schedule of activities that reduces the risk of cancer by 75 percent attributable to emissions from stationary sources
- encouraging state/local programs to reduce risk from a particular urban area.
- achieving substantial reduction in risk (e.g., noncancer and cumulative risk)

In addition, the Clean Air Act requires that EPA study the need for and feasibility of controlling emissions of toxic air pollutants from mobile sources. Based on this study EPA is to determine if regulations containing reasonable and feasible requirements to control air toxics from motor vehicles or motor vehicle fuels are necessary.

Goals of the Urban Air Toxic Strategy

In September of 1996, Sierra Club filed suit against EPA for failing to publish the analysis of the urban air toxics problem. EPA has agreed to analyze the urban air toxics problem and publish a report as part of a consolidated consent decree [cite]. The agency intends to fulfill its obligations by combining a number of efforts under the Clean Air Act into an Integrated Urban Air Toxic Strategy that addresses the urban air toxic risk from both stationary and mobile sources. EPA believes that by considering urban air toxic emissions from all outdoor sources EPA will better respond to the relative risk posed by any one pollutant and/or source category. Thus, integration of various Clean Air Act activities will more realistically indicate the total outdoor exposure and will better allow EPA and the States to develop activities to address risks posed by toxic pollutants. EPA and States will then be able to achieve the most significant emissions reductions using the most cost-effective control methods.

NEXT STEPS

- ♦ After evaluating public comments on this draft emissions inventory, and any additional information on the impact of Federal State and local regulations on the named list of air toxics, EPA intends to issue a draft of the Integrated Urban Air Toxic Strategy Report by April 30, 1998.
- ♦ Following publication of this draft report and after reviewing any comments received, EPA intends to proceed to develop the final Integrated Urban Air Toxic Strategy by December 31, 1998.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

- ♦ The <u>Federal Register</u> notice and the emissions inventory documentation is available on the Internet at: (http://www.epa.gov/ttn/uatw/112kfac.html). This fact sheet is also available on the Internet at: (http://www.epa.gov/ttn/oarpg/rules.html). For technical questions about the Integrated Urban Air Toxic Strategy, contact Laura McKelvey at (919) 541-5497.
- ♦ The complete Section 112(k) Federal Register Notice and background documentation is available through EPA's Air and Radiation Docket (Docket Number A-97-44) and Information Center by calling (202) 260-7548 or -7549 or FAX (202) 260-4000 (a reasonable fee may be charged for copying).
- ◆ EPA's Office of Air and Radiation's home page on the Internet contains a wide range of information on the air pollution programs including air toxics issues. The Office of Air and Radiation's home page address is: (http://www.epa.gov/oar/).